

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 252148

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/CE:HEWILGIS/BAFLATIN:JNA

APPROVED BY: S - THE SECRETARY

EUR/CE - NCLEDSKY

EUR/RPE - FMKINNELLY

EB/IFD/ODF - REBENEDICK

EUR - WSTABLER

S/S - WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

INFO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252148

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, ENRG, AU, OECD

SUBJ: SALZBURG CONFERENCE OF SMALLER STATES

REF: VIENNA 10148

1. YOU MAY INFORM STATE SECRETARY VESELSKY THAT THE SECRETARY APPRECIATES HAVING BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THE PROJECTED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SMALLER COUNTRIES SCHEDULED FOR SALZBURG IN FEBRUARY. YOU MAY ALSO CONVEY THE SECRETARY'S GOOD WISHES FOR THE CONFERENCE'S SUCCESS.

2. (FYI): WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, WISH TO PASS ANY SPECIFIC AGENDA SUGGESTIONS TO THE AUSTRIANS, AS REQUESTED IN PARA 1, REFTEL. THIS STEMS FROM OUR GENERAL OPPOSITION TO THE PROLIFERATION OF STATE GROUPINGS WHICH DIVIDE THE WORLD ARTIFICALLY INTO BLOCS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED
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PAGE 02 STATE 252148

ABOUT THOSE STATE GROUPINGS WHICH DO NOT THEMSELVES HAVE

THE RESOURCES TO UNDERTAKE PROJECTS WHICH THEY ADVOCATE, AND THEN ATTEMPT TO HAVE LARGER, WEALTHIER STATES EXECUTE THEM. ACCORDINGLY, WE WISH TO AVOID ANY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON KREISKY'S PLAN FOR A MARSHALL PLAN FOR LDCS (PARA 5, REFTEL), A PLAN WHICH WE BELIEVE IS BEYOND THE CAPACITIES OF THE NATIONS WHICH WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO FINANCE IT. IF PRESSED FOR SOME COMMENT, HOWEVER, YOU MAY SUGGEST THAT SUCH A PLAN BE REFERRED FOR STUDY TO THE OECD (WHERE WE UNDERSTAND IT HAS BEEN CONSIDERED WITHOUT MUCH ENTHUSIASM IN THE PAST). (END FYI)

3. YOU MAY INFORM VESELSKY INFORMALLY THAT WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO BROAD-RANGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE-ALLOCATION STUDIES (PARA 3, REFTEL). WE SUPPORT CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACHES TO THESE PROBLEMS, AND CLAIM NO MONOPOLY OF KNOWLEDGE ON HOW TO MEET THEM. THE CONFERENCE WOULD PERHAPS BE MOST FRUITFUL IF IT FOCUSED ON THE HARDER THEMES INVOLVING THE QUALITY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE, RATHER THAN ON MORE PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUES, SUCH AS THE ABOLITION OF WAR AND VIOLENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE PRESUME THAT THE SALZBURG CONFERENCE WOULD BE EXAMINING AND BUILDING UPON SOME OF THE PREVIOUS WORK BY THE CLUB OF ROME IN PROJECTING ECONOMIC AND POPULATION GROWTH RESOURCE AVAILABILITY, AND POLLUTION PROBLEMS. (FYI): IN OUR OPINION, THE CLUB OF ROME'S WORK HAS BEEN WELL-MEANING, BUT SUPERFICIAL (AND IT HAS BEEN ROUNDLY ATTACKED AS SUCH). (END FYI)

4. RE PARA 6, REFTEL, WE DO NOT SEE HOW INVOLVEMENT OF THIS PARTICULAR CONFERENCE IN THE ENERGY QUESTION CAN BE OF ANY MEANINGFUL ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME.
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